The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occuring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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NON-UNION EMPLOYERS : : : WOULD FEUDALIZE AMERICA

"Control the job and you control the man," is the philosophy of the non-union employer.

This employer is supreme. He sets hours and working conditions. By denying employes a voice in wages he is master of their homes, their families, their lives.

Every necessity, the little luxuries and enjoyments of the family, the education of children, their food and clothing is through the good will of this modern feudal baron.

The unorganized worker has no voice. He must accept any terms the master wills or work elsewhere. If non-unionism is general in his community, he is helpless, for his family must be fed.

It is the aim of the chamber of commerce of the United States and other business interests would seize on American workers.

These are the men who talked of liberty and democracy during the war. They made loud protests against autocracy of the kaiser, whom they imitate, but they lack the courage and frankness of the military autocrat.

One claimed to rule by divine right, and backed his claim by bayonets. The other professes to abhor autocracy while building up this system through non-unionism and individual bargaining.

He does not resort to bayonets. His weapon—mastery of the job—is just as effective and more discreet.

He appeals to man's loftiest ideals and most patriotic impulses to hide his slave theory, his cheapness, his hunger for inordinate profits, his refusal to treat employes as Americans.

Trade unionism is the answer to those who would feudalize this country.

Every trade union should have a standing organizing committee. These committees must be supported by the enthusiasm and vigor of every other member.

Trade unionism should be the gospel of every organized worker. It should be his life work, his guiding star to a better day for America.

Agitate! Organize! Educate!

'BAD ORDER' WORKMEN IS RAILROAD MENACE

Cleveland, Nov. 12.—Because of liberal allowance by the government, railroads are paying attention to the "bad order" rolling stock, and the Locomotive Engineers' Journal suggests that some attention be paid to "bad order" workmen, says this publication, is more dangerous than any other piece of bad railroad mechanism.

"It is the duty of the railroads to discard some of the practices prevailing of late and adopt more common sense methods in the handling of handling train and enginemen so as the locomotive may be kept in motion in the past, due to their lack of proper rest at the terminals, represent the weakest link in the whole system of train operation.

"One of the most unfair and inhuman practices of the railroads in this respect is that of taking deadheading of crews relieved at their far the longest run out of their regular period, at the beginning or ending them out again, perhaps to face another 16-hour run, with little or no time between for rest or meals, before the three hours' terminal rest, and may be with none.

"Safety first' officials weep groceable tears of sympathy over the risks of makers and the injuries sustained by train and enginemen, but wink at the practices that deny them proper rest, the necessary time for meals, remote safety and efficiency in railroad train service.

"If the facts were known many train accidents and cases of personal injury would be found to be the result of proper rest for enginemen between trips."

TRADE UNIONS AID VETS

Washington, Nov. 12.—The federal board for vocational education press bureau states that most of the war service men's opportunities for training on the job have been made possible by labor unions waiving their apprentice regulations that were worked out to safeguard their special privileges.

"This is true in employment in the slogan of the federal board. In other words a man who learns his trade in an efficient manner will be in no efficient that he naturally steps into a paying job."

The result has been first to give a man instruction in a school and later to put him to work on the job. There he learns to do by doing. All job-training courses are one-year courses, or a part thereof time, it is stated, there are 12,429 men in training in 5,557 establishments located all over the United States.

HUGE GROWTH IN EXPORTS.

Washington, Nov. 13. — American manufacturers are now doing about 12 times as much export business in a single month as they did in a year a century ago, reports the department of commerce.

"During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1921," it is stated, "the total value of all export shipments from the United States aggregated $15,-624,000,000. Today American manufacturers transact about 12 times that business in a single month — the month — the exports for September, 1920, amounting to $1,557,000,000.

"During the fiscal year 1920 America's export trade has grown to the remarkable figure of $7,949,000,000."

PRESSMEN MAKE GAINS.

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., Nov. 12.—The current issue of American Pressmen, official magazine of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union, carries a large list of localities where wages in this craft have been advanced and working conditions improved. The wage gains are substantial, $10 a week in some instances, several instances the figures are higher than $40.

SUE FOR WIFE'S DEATH.

Boston, Nov. 13.—John Hanlain, a former resident of this city, is suing the United States government in the federal court for $50,000 damages for the death of his wife, it is alleged. During the steel strike, last fall, the couple were living in Duquesne, Pa., where Mrs. Hanlain was killed by a steel trust guard. She was walking on the street at the time.

WIRE MEN WANT MORE.

Cincinnati, Nov. 12.—To enforce a wage demand of $1.25 an hour, 400 members of Electrical Workers union No. 212 suspended work.

COOPERS RAISE WAGES.

New York, Nov. 12.—Coopers' union No. 82, New York, has secured increases in the skilled branch, have raised wages to $1 an hour.

WHY FARMERS BURN CORN.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The burning of corn for fuel, however desirable it would always be, especially when the price of corn goes so low that it will not pay its equivalent in commercial fuel, according to Dr. H. C. Taylor of the department of agriculture. Commenting upon reports that middle west farmers threaten to burn corn because of present prices it is cheaper for fuel than coal, he said:

"Farmers will not burn corn instead of coal unless they are driven to it by economic necessity. If the prices of farm products are adjusted to pre-war levels no more rapidly than are the prices of things the farmer must buy, agriculture can be counted upon to continue the course it has taken for many years. But if the prices of farm products fall far below the prices of other things remain high, the farmer will be compelled to reorganize his business on a self-sustaining basis, that is, produce more largely to satisfy his own needs, and pay less attention to production for the market. This would result in a decline in the commercial supply of farm products.

"American farmers are steadily increasing their efficiency. They will not precipitate the nation into such a course from base motives. However, if they find the means failing to appreciate the necessity of farm products having a satisfactory ratio to other prices, farmers may be forced to retrench to save their homes and protect their families."

HEALTH PROPAGANDA PAYS.

Philadelphia, Nov. 13. — Health propaganda has reduced the tuberculosis mortality rate 50 per cent in the last 40 years, says Director of Public Health Krusen.

"Until 1912," he says, "tuberculosis was the leading cause of death in Philadelphia. Extensive health propaganda has been successful against this disease, but it is still a great menace. Pneumonia, consumption and heart disease are responsible for one-third of all the deaths in this country. The first two of these diseases are, in a large measure, preventable. Pneumonia, which ranks fifth in the list of mortality list and we should spare no effort to hold the acute pulmonary infection in check.

"Exercise, fresh air, sunshine, adequate clothing and avoidance of exposure to wet and cold are measures of prevention."

HUGE SUGAR PROFITS.

New York, Nov. 12.—Evidence of big profits made last year by sugar companies is found in the report of the Cuba cane sugar corporation for the year ending September 2. The net profits were $12,144,134, or $17.35 a share on the common stock, after deducting the preferred stock dividends paid and all other charges were made the preceding year net profits were $7,234,858, or the equal of $7.17 per common stock.

ANTIS CUT WAGES.

New Orleans, Nov. 12.—The Great Southern Lumber company, which operates the largest mill in the world at Bogalusa, near here, has laid off large numbers of workers and cut wages 5 cents an hour. The old scale was 40 cents and the new rate is 35 cents for a 10-hour day.

The Great Southern Lumber company recently locked out several hundred employes who were organizing in the time. Company thugs fired on the headquarters of the union and killed several workers.

DON'T NEED LICENSE.

Washington, Nov. 12.—The United States supreme court has ruled that a state cannot, by statute, compel drivers of government automobiles to carry a state license. The government upheld the claim that the license law "was an infringement of the constitutional freedom of federal operation from state control."

DEFEAT TWO-PLATOON.

Boston, Nov. 12.—The two-platoon system for firemen was defeated at the election with the assistance of Mayor Peters who declared that its adoption would increase the taxes of the city.

Firemen employed by the city are arranging to "call" the mayor, and have prepared a schedule of rate increases.

PRESSMEN STRIKE.

Scranton, Pa., Nov. 12.—More than 200 pressmen employed in commercial printing shops suspended work to enforce a wage raise of $4.5 for a 44-hour week. The old maximum wage was $35.4 week.

CIVILIZATION'S GOAL IS MEN, NOT PRODUCTS

New York, Nov. 12.—"Men, not things, is the true goal of organization," said President Gompers, in an address before the American society of mechanical engineers.

"That civilization fails that does not produce great men and great women, able to create and to use with discernment the material things that serve the spirit. Who can estimate the worth of human beings? I submit that the true ethical point of view of production is that the man himself is the main product and the material is the by-product, and it is in this clearer point of view, it seems to me, the way lies open for joining the forces which the labor movement represents and the forces representing the activities of your own societies.

"The old feeling of workmanship, which existed before the industrial revolution came about, has been greatly modified because of the perfection reached in machine design. This process, however, has been carried entirely too far, for in many places the man has become a human connecting link in a machine and mastered by it instead of controlling the machine himself, as he did with the tools in the old days.

"The result is that today men's work is apt to become monotonous, and it seems to me that the task that confronts us is to develop a definite kind of working environment which will be attractive and which will inspire rather than discourage the workman. The work itself must become a central concern. This can be brought about unless the man finds the opportunity for self-expression in the day's work and a chance to exercise his creative impulses.

"It is the deadly monotony of repetitive work that is at the root of most of our troubles today. It, therefore, in the name of the workers' urge upon you engineers to direct your attention to the solution of this problem.

"Given that the machines you create do not become a Frankenstein and enslave the human race."

EMPLOYES ARE "THE PUBLIC."

Washington, Nov. 12.—Organized federal employes in control of the capital have taken the unusual position that they are part of the public and that the board of wage fixers are set by the District of Columbia minimum wage board.

A rate of $14.50 a week for laundry workers (outside of the government laundry) has been recommended, and the federal employes have issued a strong protest against this insufficient rate. They insist that they are the largest part of the public in the District of Columbia, and the largest body of consumers in the District.

"It is of vital importance to us, as citizens and members of the community," they say, "that proper standards of living be maintained and that every worker be able to receive at least a decent living wage. We believe in a single wage standard regardless of sex or color. We protest against differences in wages based upon differences in sex and colored workers, since the lower rate for women employed or for colored workers would be an argument to decrease the minimum paid to the other."

HUGE R. R. FATALITIES.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Last year 6,978 persons were killed and 149,-654 injured on railroads in the United this country, reports the interstate commerce commission. Of the killed 272 were passengers and of the injured 7,456 were passengers. Employes killed during the year number 2,128 and 131,018 were injured.

Fewer trespassers on railroads were killed in 1919 than during any year of the commission's records, which go back to 1890. Last year 2,010 trespassers were killed and 2,658 injured.

While the 1919 accidents affected large numbers, the commission says the number of killed is smaller than in any year since 1890 and fewer were injured than in any year since 1910.

WANT STATE COSSACKS.

Columbus, Ohio, Nov. 13.—Small town and country newspapers in this state are being furnished with written and illustrated stories on the activities of the state's new constabulary protects sheep from the ravages of dogs. Farmers are assured that if Ohio passes the $100,000 lazy law chicken thievery and other rural crimes will become unknown rural sections.

Trade unionists show that special interests are playing the familiar game to secure farmer support for the constabulary scheme, who are stationed in industrial centers, as is the case in Pennsylvania.

Ohio unionists have defeated former attempts to fasten the cossack system on this state, and the present propaganda again proves that special interest is ever alert.

WORKERS BEAT GOVERNOR.

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 12.—Organized workers in this state are jubilant over the defeat of Governor Roberts by Colonel Alf A. Taylor, democratic nominee. Labor had been running amuck on a hysterical campaign of "law and order" and "anti-bolshevism," which culminated up 100 per cent against him through non-partisan committees, and accomplished what many people declared to be "impossible."

STRIKE TROOPS WITHDRAWN.

Williamson, W. Va., Nov. 12.—Federal troops have been withdrawn from the strike-bound coal fields in this district, leaving the fighting to state cossacks. Governor Cornwall ahnded over the troops, but is still on. The strikers declare that the governor is disappointed that the troops did not stampede the miners when the soldiers appeared.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Rochester, N. Y., Nov. 13.—The Typographical union has negotiated new wage scale that increases from $5 a week for day work and $6 for night work, in both newspaper and commercial shops. The rates are now $41 and $45.

CO-OPS. OIL STREETS.

Girard, Ill., Nov. 12.—To make life in this vicinity more pleasant, the co-operative society used some of its funds to oil the streets. The annual report shows a net saving of $625.54.

MINIMUM PRODUCTION CAN'T BE WAGE BASE

New York, Nov. 13.—A minimum wage is based on the needs of a worker to live, and this has no relation to minimum production.

The above summarizes a rejection by the International Ladies' Garment Workers' union of the offer of children's dress manufacturers that they will guarantee a minimum wage if the union guarantees a minimum production.

The manufacturers refused to fall into the trap and exposed a sophistry that is being used at the present time.

"We cannot and will not guarantee a minimum production because such a guarantee would defeat the very purpose of establishing the minimum wage," the unionists replied.

"A minimum wage is established for the purpose of enabling the lowest paid worker to maintain a living on the basis of his most essential needs, and production as well as quality can be made from the wage rate, which thereby ceases to be a minimum wage.

"In fact, an arrangement of this kind will destroy the whole system of work into one of task work."

WOMEN WORKERS A PROBLEM.

Washington, Nov. 12.—Those who hold that the trend of learning by married women is not an American problem overlook the economic necessity and the purposeful activity which are stimulating a reconstruction of the young girls, to gainful employment, says the federal board for vocational education.

"Over 25 per cent of our working women in 1910 had married. 15.4 per cent were widowed or divorced. Unquestionably a large part of the remaining 84.6 per cent are single, shared family responsibilities. The number of married women contributing to the family income by their labor is increasing and the number of single women who spend in industry, variously estimated from three to seven years is lengthening.

"In 23 miscellaneous factory industries in Philadelphia in 1919 the federal bureau of labor statistics found that more than 25 per cent of the women workers were married. Of the women over 20 years of age more than one-fifth, 21.6 per cent, were married. Of American textile women in the selected industries 9.2 per cent were married."

VALUE IN UNION BENEFITS.

Chicago, Nov. 12.—President Perkins of the Cigar Makers' International union replies as follows to opponents of union benefits:

"No form of organization could be secured to enforce the Tampa strike and met all financial obligations without a reserve fund and its maintenance.

"In 25 weeks the Tampa strike has cost $200,000 more in benefits than the other beneficial features all combined cost in the year 1918, which is the only year in which benefit organization with no other beneficial features to speak of would have dropped out to avoid paying the assessment, knowing that they could secure employment in a week and without the loss in benefits or to be benefited.

"Whether some like it or not, the beneficial features of the international union are the most attractive features and helps to make the organization stable and permanent."

LABOR PARTY LOSES.

New York, Nov. 12.—According to cable dispatches, the British labor party has suffered in the last few elections, in 70 of the leading boroughs it has put forward 747 candidates, and of these 615 were defeated.

Anti-labor elements in England declare that this ends labor's political activity while the workers declare that when the question of education gets in full swing they will be ready for further political work.

"The lesson that comes from the election to labor," said J. H. Thomas of the railway men's union, "is to convert the public to the general aims of labor."

FORCED TO BUY HOMES.

Philadelphia, Nov. 13.—Hundreds of workers in this city are protesting against taxation on their homes that are assessed from the standard of from 50 to 100 per cent. During the past year these workers have been coerced to buy homes at exorbitant prices by real estate sharks who conducted a "buy-or-get-out" campaign. The assessors claim that the added taxation makes their burden unbearable.

Workers' Monotony Make Soulless Life

London, England, Nov. 12.—The dullness and monotony of workers' lives does not permit the development of the soul, says Dr. Charles Myers, lecturer on psychology at the University of Cambridge in his new book, "Mind and Work." The author says: "The fundamental cause of fatigue research board and was a consultant in psychology to the British forces in France.

Dr. Myers says the physiological factors involved in purely muscular work are not of the greatest importance in the effects of monotony, which are mental, not intense, suspicion, hostility.

"The psychological factor," he declares, "must therefore be the main consideration for industry and commerce in the future.

"Does the textile industry, for example, suffer from monotony? Has vocational system when 50 per cent of the workers are found to be unfit to leave it before they reach the age of 27? Do you call the work of a mailman, or a painter a vocation? What chances are offered in such occupations for escape from a soulless life of unrelieved monotony?

"Only high productivity, good wages and short hours the ultimate standards of industrial efficiency should not the worker aim at a more interesting and intelligent life, and at the exercise of the higher duties of citizenship?"

Dr. Myers declares that two fundamental conditions must be satisfied so far as the workers are concerned—namely, the elimination of unemployment and a share in management. "Scientific management," he urged so that, as far as possible, men may enter work which interests them and is suited to their mental aptitudes.

Motion study is also favored. The author makes it clear that these studies must not be for the purpose of "sweating" workers, but must they be the edict of some supervisor. Rather, they are the result of investigations in which workers play a part, to secure the maximum of production with the minimum of effort. Originality among the workers must be encouraged, rather than stifled.

Workers must also be provided with a truly vocational training which will fit them for promotion to various higher grades, and enable them to change from one type of work to another, so that they may be released from "the soul-starving tedium of monotonous routine, induced to devise and to recommend further improvements and better enabled to play their part in production and creation in their work.

Dr. Myers says any change along the lines indicated will be impossible without the co-operation of trade unions.

THREE-SHIFT SYSTEM "OBVIOUSLY COMING"

New York, Nov. 12.—The eight-hour day, or three-shifts-a-day system, is "obviously coming" and it is the part of wisdom for employers to prepare for it, says mechanical and electrical engineers in announcing their annual meeting in this city on December 7.

The technicians include members of the American society of mechanical engineers and the American institute of electrical engineers.

It is stated that Horace B. Drury, formerly of the economics department, Ohio state university, will discuss "The three-shift system in the steel industry."

"During recent months," the announcement states, "Mr. Drury has visited practically all of the steel plants in the United States working under the three-shift system in an effort to collect facts and data covering the details of their operation and figures showing the results obtained.

"Mr. Drury's paper will be a general review of his findings and will constitute the first comprehensive contribution on this important subject to American engineering literature.

"Throughout industry there is a steadily growing tendency to shorten hours. Russia, France, Belgium and Germany the three-shift day has very largely superseded the long two-shift day. Is it coming here?

"Because the three-shift system is so obviously coming in America it is the part of conservation and wisdom for management to prepare for it."

RENT GOUGERS "IN SOCIETY."

Washington, Nov. 12.—A probe of high rents in the nation's capital by the federal trade commission's new department did not take the usual course—the profiteers admit that the public was being gouged and that an alleged housing shortage was propaganda to increase rents and buying.

The report favors a campaign of "pitiless publicity" which would not only have the effect of reducing rents, but would create a disagreeable discomfort to persons socially prominent in the District of Columbia who are among the foremost real estate profiteers.

The report makes the charge that there are sufficient vacant houses and apartments in the city to make available because "the owners and agents are purposely holding them empty in order to force the unpleasant transients into 'buying at 'peak prices,' realizing a profit of 50 per cent above the original building cost."

Attention is called to the government's new powers to "seize, appraise and lease" vacant apartments at a fair rental to army and navy officers and government employes, which procedure would soon cause real estate agents to loosen up on houses."

IS THIS JUDGE JOKING?

Indianapolis, Nov. 12.—Federal Judge Anderson and United States Attorney General Palmer "are swords' points over the prosecution of Indiana, Illinois and Western Pennsylvania coal owners and miners on charges of alleged conspiracy.

Attorney General Palmer is reported to have instructed Anderson not to use evidence that was used against the miners in their contempt proceedings. The assistant attorney because he said the attorney general's order would prevent the use of evidence that was the basis of the government's injunction against the striking coal miners.

The attorney general's attitude, around the country, is said to be declares it to be "personal government, not government by law."

This is the same Judge Anderson whose injunction record is anything but complimentary to the law. He issued orders and then threatened workers with jail if they refused to obey. Both he and Attorney General Palmer were in accord last fall when they set aside the government by law and enjoined the miners.

Now the honorable court declares against one-man government.

FARMERS BREAK RECORDS.

Washington, Nov. 12.—American farmers broke production records of all previous years, according to preliminary estimates announced by the department of agriculture. The report shows that the corn, tobacco, rice, sweet potatoes and pear crops surpassed in quantity the records of any year in the country's history.

In addition, a number of crops grown—in some instances closely approaching records—of oats, barley, rye, potatoes, flaxseed, etc. The corn yield totaled 2,199,126,000 bushels, or 75,000,000 bushels more than ever before grown in any one year.

AUTO MECHANICS UNITE.

Champaign, Ill., Nov. 13. — Auto mechanics have perfected a strong organization and affiliated with the trade union movement.

COAL CONTROL HINTED TO END PROFITEERING

New York, Nov. 12.—If the coal owners of the country do not stop gouging the public the government will have to take control, declared United States senators Calder and Edge in a statement issued in this city. The lawmakers are members of the senate committee on reconstruction. They give notice that "unless the coal industry reforms itself and cuts prices to a reasonable figure by December 1 a bill will be introduced in the senate providing for the most drastic and stringent regulation of every branch of the business."

The senators make the sweeping charge that "the coal industry as a whole stands self-convicted of profiteering gross extortion on the whole public of the United States."

"With 45,000,000 more tons of coal produced so far in 1920 over the same period of 1919 there is no reason for high prices and coal shortage," it is stated.

Similar charges have been admitted by D. B. Wentz, president of the National Coal association; by Commissioner Clyde B. Aitchison of the interstate commerce commission and by Isaac Villiard of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, representing the railroads.

"We are opposed to government regulation as a policy, but the government must assume responsibility for its people, and we will recommend that if the coal operators of the industry just as far as possible in the direction of reducing prices are materially reduced to the public by December 6.

"The coal industry stands self-convicted.

"This is a general confession on the part of the industry, even though guilty individuals have not been identified. The information of these evils is their own concern and they have failed to act. The coal operators realize that and are seeking today to clean up their business within 30 days. That is the only salvation. If they can't give propaganda assurance they will be use drastic means to solve it."

OPPOSE JAPS HOLDING LAND

San Francisco, Nov. 13.—By an overwhelming vote the people of this state adopted an amendment to the state constitution which will strengthen the alien land law, a law that prohibits the ownership of land in California by aliens not eligible to citizenship.

The amendment forbids the leasing of land for such purposes and puts a stop to evasions of the state law by Japanese, which have been in use by elder aliens of the names of children born here of foreign parentage.

It also stops the manipulation of land by means of such subterfuges as such as the use of the names of citizens as dummy directors of companies which are owned by aliens.

The amendment will deprive no Japanese now in California of land or other property now owned by them. The bill is designed to prevent the acquisition of land in the future and is intended to check the progress of the Japanese.

The people's decision will not be accepted by the Japs without a fight, it is declared. A publication of Indiana, Indianapolis Star, says:

"Whether Japanese subjects can be naturalized is a question which has never been decided by the supreme court of the United States, therefore we wish to have the enacted law and land law against the Japanese prohibited. If they are eligible to citizenship, well and really entitled to the privilege of ownership we shall then turn to the courts on the ground of unconstitutionality."

WOULD BAR POLITICS.

Toronto, Ontario, Nov. 13.—D. B. Hanna, president of the Canadian national railways, takes the position that politics should be divorced from the government he shall surrender his citizen rights.

Acting on this theory, Mr. Hanna gives notice that employes of the railway system must keep out of political office, and if they accept they automatically cease to be employed by the road.

The order has raised a storm and the official explanation that there is nothing new, but was the rule under private management. The railway president claims in no offense, and ask if the road would be fair to employ persons for examples of railroads—for instance, the department of justice, because of trade union affiliation?

FARMERS VIOLATE "LAW."

Kansas City, Kan., Nov. 12.—The Labor Herald publishes the following what he intends doing in the case of farmers who are holding their wheat crop for $2.50 a bushel and who are also selling elevators and mills, "and refuse to allow a weak grower to market his wheat at the going price."

Under the Allen "can't-strike" law the farmers are retaining property of foodstuffs and are liable to a penitentiary sentence and fine.

U. S. EMPLOYES UNITING

Washington, Nov. 13.—Officers of the National Federation of Federal Employes are conducting a nationwide campaign of organization for demands for improved conditions before the opening of the coming session of congress, which officials declare that 250 local affiliates is possible.

"The stronger our federation when we go to congress next winter," they say, "the more progress we will make in legislation in which we are interested."

WHY THEY DISLIKE UNIONS.

Tampa, Fla., Nov. 13.—The board of public works showed why employers dislike trade unions when it let a contract for a job and then awarded to the lowest bidder.

Union labor was paid on the basis of $1 an hour, and nonunion contractors on the basis of 60 cents an hour. The latter received the contract.

ORGANIZE SHIP YARDS

Baltimore, Nov. 12.—Workers employed in local steel ship yards are holding mass meetings in the interest of trade unionism.

GROCERY CLERKS OUT.

New York, Nov. 12.—Several hundred clerks in the down town section to five routes not fostered by the great car company.

Labor's Non-Partisan Campaign Has Been Justified, Says Gompers

Washington, Nov. 13.—Labor's non-partisan campaign has been justified, declared President Gompers in his first public statement on the recent election. One of the features of the election, says the trade union executive, is the defeat of 50 time-serving congressmen and the election of a surprising number of friends of labor.

In the formal statement follows:

"The non-partisan political policy of the A. F. of L. is more completely justified than ever and the futility of separate party action more convincingly demonstrated.

"Every man in the house whose record of service was perfect has been returned.

"Incomplete checking already shows that congressmen who were inconsiderate and hostile have been defeated.

"This is one of the most impressive features of the entire election. Fifty time-servers have been beaten.

"Against these 50 who were defeated the surprising number have elected from 56 to 66 men whose records show fair and considerate service.

"This represents a clear gain for labor of from 106 to 116 men in congress also will show an increased number of men who hold union cards. Incomplete checking up of the results so far shows 15 elected to the new congress by the probability that final counting will show more than 20, possibly.

"It is not to be said that the election was satisfactory in every respect. Every forward looking man and woman must feel some deep regret because of the great plunge toward reaction. But democracy will right itself at the proper time, and meanwhile the actual tabulation of results in congress, the lawmaking body, shows a definite and specified gain for all that makes for, progress and a response to the needs of our time.

"The non-partisan campaign of the A. F. of L. was primarily and most effectively a campaign in congressional districts. Its results were gained in the primaries and in the election. These results will serve as a constant reminder to all servants of public principles and the ever-present and always imminent duty. They will be before the new congress that 50 of the unfaithful and their hostile were defeated by the organized workers of our republic.

"A notable American has said, 'I would rather be right than be president.' To be engaged in righteous cause, to fight for freedom, for justice, for peace and human brotherhood, is a privilege greater than human family than is a passing political triumph. But the labor movement America recognizes the tremendous struggle of the masses of the people, all labor and those who hold union cards. Incomplete checking up of the results so far shows 15 elected to the new congress by the probability that final counting will show more than 20, possibly.

"It is not to be said that the election was satisfactory in every respect. Every forward looking man and woman must feel some deep regret because of the great plunge toward reaction. But democracy will right itself at the proper time, and meanwhile the actual tabulation of results in congress, the lawmaking body, shows a definite and specified gain for all that makes for, progress and a response to the needs of our time.

"The non-partisan campaign of the A. F. of L. was primarily and most effectively a campaign in congressional districts. Its results were gained in the primaries and in the election. These results will serve as a constant reminder to all servants of public principles and the ever-present and always imminent duty. They will be before the new congress that 50 of the unfaithful and their hostile were defeated by the organized workers of our republic.

"A notable American has said, 'I would rather be right than be president.' To be engaged in righteous cause, to fight for freedom, for justice, for peace and human brotherhood, is a privilege greater than human family than is a passing political triumph. But the labor movement America recognizes the tremendous struggle of the masses of the people, all labor and those who hold union cards and the setbacks they have often had to endure. To be engaged in the struggle they have had to make, decade by decade, century by cycle, in the march and the trend of the ages toward freedom of America, forward, onward and upward."

STARVING MEN FIGHT SAYS LABOR EDITOR

San Francisco, Nov. 12.—Starving men will fight, writes Paul Scharrenberg, editor of the Seamen's Journal, in a discussion of the recent Italian industrial upheaval, in an editorial regarding seizing factories. The editor is a member of the Seamen's union and was a delegate to the labor conference of seamen, held in Italy a few months ago.

"When masses are starving," says the labor editor, "it is comparatively easy to create discontent and resentment because a few live in idleness and luxury.

"This is not typical of Italy and it is not simply an after-war paralysis of labor. The same thing would exist right here in America if we were starving. Indeed, we have for over four years been fighting desperately in the trenches referred as we were starving, literally to find their loved ones literally starving to death.

"Their state of mind is about like this: We have been at the front and fought battles that will be recorded in the history of the world; we have helped to create wealth for other property, and now that we are home we find that the only thing to stare death while you live like a swine at the trough."

He finds a rage that is indescribable they are turning upon all those who dare see no good in such things. The great mass of the soldiers of Italy have not read Marx, but they have been taught certain attractive socialists. Some have become anarchists, others socialists, others, perhaps unconsciously, instinctive socialists. However, they would back the revolution, be it one or the other in such vast numbers that it would be classified as a state bordering on famine.

Nitti, declare that nothing is to be done but to increase production and labored, and they are now taking the same attitude in North America.

"We may call this state of mind anything we please, socialism, anarchism, or bolshevism. That is of little importance. Industrial and industry remains paralyzed, may be considered unofficially that it will not change so long as economic conditions remain as they are substantially what they are and have been since the signing of the armistice."

NO "NORMALCY" FOR LABOR.

Toronto, Ontario, Nov. 12.—Labor is not going back to "normalcy," Mr. Moore, president of the Trades and Labor congress of Canada, in an interview in a local newspaper.

"I would remind those employers who talk of 'getting back to pre-war standards,'" said the unionist, "that the pre-war standards will not come back from the world war with everything idealistic, for which they fought and were prepared to die. Depend upon it, labor is not going to be driven back to anything substantially what they are and have been since the signing of the armistice."

FAVOR U. S. CONTROL.

New York, Nov. 12.—Strict federal control of the coal and oil production is favored by the district attorneys in Bronx and Kings counties, in a statement issued today.

"The coal situation today is so bad that the consuming public of people are going to do, I consider stringent government control last resort," the statement seems to fair only one. Some means should be adopted to force the owners of coal equally from early spring until late in the fall. Incentive should be offered to induce the consumers to buy early."

BUTCHERS SHORT WEIGHT.

Philadelphia, Nov. 12.—City officials say Philadelphia citizens are robbed of from $2,500 to $5,000 a day by the short weighting of meats. The most common method is to have a false bottom in the drawer on the scales and then grabbing it off the scales after the weight can be registered. Investigations show that butchers do not depend upon this practice to rob their patrons while they were looking on.

GARMENT WORKERS WIN.

Yonkers, N. Y., Nov. 13.—Organized garment workers are successful in their drive that 1,000,000 dollars. Their latest gain is a shop employing more than 50 new members.

STEAM FITTERS GAIN.

Yonkers, N. Y., Nov. 13.—Wages have been increased $6.00 a week by Steam Fitters' union No. 542. Journeymen will hereafter be paid $7 and assistants $5.